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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/618,348

07/11/2003

Ntiedo M. Etuk

15703-003001

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07/12/2005

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EXAMINER

CHENG, JOE H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3713

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/618,348	ETUK ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Joe H. Cheng	3713	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 April 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-9,11-16,18-21 and 23-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-9,11-16,18-21 and 23-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 28, 2005 has been entered. In addition, in response to the Amendment filed on April 28, 2005, claims 4, 10, 17 and 22 have been cancelled and the claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, 18-21 and 23-26 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, 18-21 and 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lotvin et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,178,407 B1) for the reasons set forth in the prior Office action and incorporated herein.

Conclusion

Response to Amendment

4. Applicant's arguments filed on April 28, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive. Applicant's argument directed to the teaching of *Lotvin et al* does not

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teach the major financial services company receives information “associating the identification of a user” who is not eligible to open a credit account “with the items that the user purchases”. However, it is noted that Figs. 4 of *Lotvin et al* teaches the child to make a purchase by redeeming points through the purchase subsystem (see column 10, lines 19-36). Fig. 6 of *Lotvin et al* teaches that the purchase subsystem receives the child’s selection and initiates and logs the order. Orders must specify the items(s) that are ordered with any required features (size, color, model, catalog number, etc.), the child’s name, and the child’s address. Also, depending on the choice, coupons for store credit or entertainment events, for example, can be printed at the user’s computer. In some situations, electronic goods can be downloaded to the child’s computer (see column 13, lines 54-65). Fig. 10 of *Lotvin et al* teaches that a separate log file associated with each child with the child’s participation and performance, including the total number of points accumulated by the child, the child purchase history, and the history of educational presentations participated in by the child (see column 15, lines 16-47). Fig. 12A of *Lotvin et al* teaches that the Child entity set attributes include name, password, credit limit, point accumulation, and personal preferences (see column 17, lines 6-49). It is the examiner’s position that *Lotvin et al* discloses the claimed limitation of “the second party (i.e. a major financial services company) receives from the third parties (i.e. merchants or other business that sell items to the public) information associating the identification of the user with the items the user purchases” and not the information associating the identity of the parent from the third parties. In addition, applicant’s arguments directed to the information associating the identity of a user can be analyzed to determine purchasing preferences of the user, used to create a purchase history file for each user, or sold and/or used to target advertising to a user based upon his or her purchasing preferences.

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Applicant is reading the limitation into the claim which is just not there. It is noted that the specification is not the measure of the invention. Therefore, limitations contained therein cannot be read into the claims for the purpose of avoiding the prior art. *In re Sporck*, 55 CCPA 743, 386 F.2d 924, 155 USPQ 687 (1968). Further, the teaching of *Lotvin et al* teaches the use of the information to target advertising to a user based upon his or her purchasing preferences (see column 18, lines 38-45). Hence, applicant's argument is not deemed to be persuasive and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is proper and stand. Hence, applicant's argument is not deemed to be persuasive and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is proper and stand.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Landry (U.S. Pat. No. 5,649,117) - note Figs. 1-25B;

Nakano et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,845,260) - note Figs. 1-6;

Armetta et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,864,830) - note Fig. 1;

Fleming (U.S. Pat. No. 5,953,710) - note Figs. 1-11;

Checchio (U.S. Pat. No. 6,052,675) - note Figs. 1A-2;

Cuervo (U.S. Pat. No. 6,105,009) - note Figs. 1 and 2;

Schwab (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0250083 A1) - note Figs. 1-7;

Linton et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0130112 A1) - note Figs. 1-20B.

6. All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the application prior to the entry of the submission under 37 CFR 1.114 and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the application prior to entry under 37 CFR 1.114. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action after the filing of a request for continued examination and the submission under 37 CFR 1.114.

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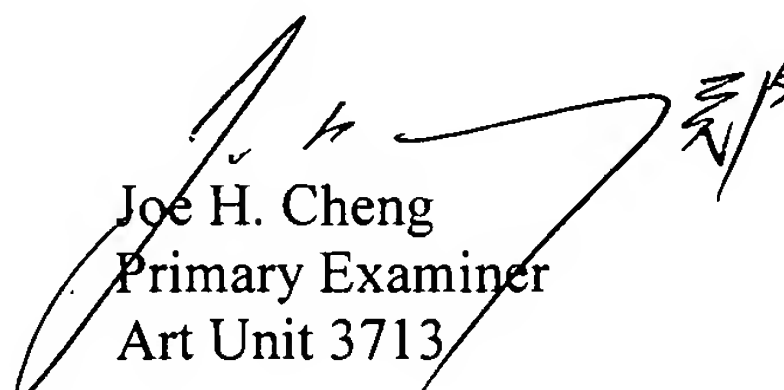
See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe H. Cheng whose telephone number is (571)272-4433. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue.- Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai can be reached on (571)272-7147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Joe H. Cheng
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3713

Joe H. Cheng
July 6, 2005